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A. W. PEARSON, Manager.

TUESDAY, MAY 5.

Mr. Barrett finds Honolulu in a yielding mood and will probably get the exhibit he is after.

Why should Delegate Wilson postpone his return till July? He might come now and not be missed in Washington.

It is noticeable that neither Cayenne nor Wilcox had Governor Dale assist for his opinion of the first Territorial Legislature.

Three more cities are talking up world's fairs. J. P. Morgan ought to take hold of these enterprises and merge them.

There must now be enough dust on the Wilcox bill to fit out the Delegate when he comes home to throw some in the House Race.

The American consumer wasn't long in finding a way to counter on the beef trust. Just as soon as beef went up he stopped putting it down.

Sympathy with the plight of the small Japanese traders in town will be tempered with the thought that many a poor merchant will soon renege himself as a good cook.

Miss Stone is advised to hold the profits of her lecture tour for a rainy day. A missionary is worth a big sum in the big game market now and Miss Stone will not be long without a successor.

The Hilo Tribune (C. C. Kennedy, Pres.) republishes as its own leading article the Bulletin's editorial bawling Roosevelt. Evidently word was passed along the line to read the President out of the party. But perhaps he won't go.

Cuba became a republic on the first of May. Before a great while its flag will appear on the seas. Nothing big a fleet the sugar business gave Hawaii in the old days, what may not be expected of the big West Indian island when its maritime business begins to bloom?

In New York the cost of living has gone up twenty per cent in a year. The beef trust has raised the price of its commodity higher than it ever was before and such staples as butter are bringing a fancy price. It is not thought that supplies will come down under a twelve-month.

Gen. Funston is not above the weakness, when the clatter of his tongue carries reproach of laying the blame on reporters. That is regarded as the easiest way out. In nine cases of ten the interview or the report of the speech is correct, or as nearly correct as one can take it in long hand; but this does not deter the man who wishes he hadn't said it from thrusting his own responsibility upon the shoulders of the press.

THE PHILIPPINES.

One of the best things that could happen to the United States, now that Cuba is practically off our hands, would be to give the people of the Philippines a chance to buy their independence for a sum equal to what that turbulent group has cost us. We bought the Philippines and a war for \$20,000,000, and the war has gone on since the late summer of 1898, nearly four years, which was the length of the American Civil War. We must, by this time, have spent a billion of dollars on it; and as small guerrilla bands can always compel the presence of a great army to guard threatened points, as witness the comparative numbers of Boers and British in South Africa, we may have to spend a billion more before the Philippines will settle down for a brief breathing spell.

The argument for keeping the Philippines is one of trade. But we haven't had to acquire Europe to get our enormous trade there. We didn't have to conquer Egypt to underbid the British on the spot for bridges, rails and locomotives. When we do business with pretty near all Europe in beef and breadstuffs, we don't have to plant our flag there first. American trade is advancing like a tidal wave, washing every shore and, unlike the tidal wave, is not receding. We don't have to buy its way to any great extent save and except in the Philippines, where we perhaps pay out five dollars for every dollar taken in. If we must maintain a big army and a bigger navy for the sake of holding the Philippine market, the business promises to be a losing one. There would be more money in getting out of the islands whole and taking chances with other commercial nations, as we do elsewhere, in keeping our traders busy.

Nor must it be forgotten that we are poaching in the old world, while forbidding old world people to poach in the new. If the United States is committed without reserve to the Monroe doctrine we had better prepare to defend it, for Europe has a right to feel that a bit of prospecting in South America would only be a mild pro quo. Are the Philippines valuable enough to stand for a billion dollar civil war and the risk of foreign complications added?

Finally we fear the results to the Republican party. An issue is being made for the enemy on which he will take the traditional American side. He will stand for the principles of the Declaration. He will vote as every American has been taught to believe from infancy up. It is too great an advantage for Republicans to safely give to Democrats; and it is one on which the latter may base a not unreasonable hope of electing a President.

To call a Philippine convention; to offer the islands at cost, maintaining a protectorate while payments are coming in; to reserve one coaling station for permanent use; to set up a free republic in the East Indies such as we ordained the other day in the West Indies—that way lies peace with honor.

With the exception of the Hawaiian Islands, the United States has no other possessions in the Pacific Ocean.

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